

PEER REVIEW

by Prof. Vera Tervel Marovska, DSc,

Professor at the Department of Bulgarian Language

at the *Paisii Hilendarski* University of Plovdiv,

on the materials submitted

for the acquisition of the academic position of *Associate Professor*

at the *Paisii Hilendarski* University of Plovdiv;

in the Sphere of higher education 2. *Humanities*

Area of professional qualification 2.1. *Philology* (Slavic Languages –

Comparative Grammar of the Slavic Languages)

The single applicant for the *Associate Professor* open position, announced in the State Gazette, Issue 92 of 18.11.2022 and on the website of the *Paisii Hilendarski* University of Plovdiv for the needs of the Department of Slavic Philology at the Faculty of Philology, is Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD who works at the Department of Slavic Philology.

1. General overview of the submitted materials

Following Order № ПД-21-52 from 16.01.2023 of the Rector of the *Paisii Hilendarski* University of Plovdiv (PU) I have been appointed a member of the Academic Review Board for the academic position of *Associate professor* at PU in the Sphere of higher education 2. Humanities; area of professional qualification 2.1. Philology (Slavic Languages – Comparative Grammar of the Slavic Languages) which was opened for the needs of the Department of Slavic Philology at the Faculty of Philology.

Documents for participation in the announced competition have been submitted by Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD who is the sole candidate for the position and who works at the Department for whose needs the position has been opened (Department of Slavic Philology at the Faculty of Philology, *Paisii Hilendarski* University of Plovdiv).

The set of documents submitted on paper by Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD is in accordance with art. 36 (1) of the Rulebook for Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University and comprises the following documents:

- an application to the Rector of Plovdiv University for participation in the competition for the open academic position of *Associate Professor*;
- a Europass CV;

- minutes from the departmental meeting reporting the applicant's readiness for the opening of the procedure and the preliminary discussion of her habilitation thesis;
- a diploma for the *PhD* educational and scientific degree;
- a habilitation thesis;
- publications and other materials, in accordance with the requirements of NACID for participation in the competition for *Associate Professor*;
- copies of the scientific publications;
- annotations of the materials in compliance with Art. 65 from the Rulebook for the Development of Academic Staff at PU, including a self-evaluation of the contributions;
- a list of noted citations;
- a list of the contributions of the scientific works, including the habilitation thesis;
- a declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents;
- documents concerning academic work.

The candidate has submitted: the monograph *Semantic and Functional Features of Temporal Adverbials in Bulgarian compared to Polish*. Plovdiv: *Paisii Hilendarski* Plovdiv University Press, 2023, 277 p. ISBN 978-619-202-823-7 as a habilitation thesis; another monograph – *The Pluperfect in Bulgarian and Polish*. Plovdiv: *Paisii Hilendarski* Plovdiv University Press, 2023, 292 p., ISBN 978-619-202-822-0; 20 research articles and 10 citations (as required).

2. Brief autobiographical data concerning the doctoral candidate

Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD, was born on 15.03.1979. She finished high school at *St. Cyril and Methodius* Humanitarian School in Plovdiv. In the period 1997 – 2002 she obtained a Master's degree in Slavic Philology (with a major in Polish) at the *Paisii Hilendarski* University of Plovdiv. From 2003 – 2006 she was a full-time PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Iv. Kutsarov, DSc. She defended her doctoral thesis in 2008.

In 2008 she became a full-time assistant professor at PU. In 2011 she was promoted to the position of Senior Assistant Professor. Since 2019 Asst. Prof. L. Ivanova has been teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language at the Medical University in Plovdiv, as well.

3. General characteristics of the applicant's professional activities

Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD, has more than 15 years of experience as a lecturer at our university. Her standing among her students and colleagues is unquestionable; she is collaborative and empathetic and this guarantees a favourable teaching and creative atmosphere for her. As far as Polish linguistics at the University of Plovdiv is concerned, the person most relied upon is Asst.

Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD. We rely on her theoretical and linguistic competence, as well as on her teaching abilities. She gained her teaching experience initially in the seminars and later she was forced by circumstances to quickly take up her responsibilities as a lecturer in one of the most complex disciplines in the philological register – Comparative Grammar of the Slavic Languages.

Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD, also relies on her academic management and administrative competences acquired over time, so that she is a reliable mentor and advisor on current teaching and research issues to her students. Being a Master's degree program Slavic Philology requires that the university course of study culminate in a Master's thesis. The Slavic Languages' lecturers, who assume the roles of academic supervisors and reviewers, are chiefly the ones who contribute to the realization of these first research attempts of their students and, on the other hand, they are also burdened with these research attempts despite their excessive teaching load. Nevertheless, the Slavic Languages' lecturers, including Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD, update the study materials – syllabi, course content, online distributed assignments and tests, and without this it would be impossible for them to optimally fulfill their didactic role.

I think that Asst. Prof. L. Ivanova is a colleague who is recognizable to scholars of Bulgarian and Slavic studies both at home and abroad. In her teaching and research activities she has always demonstrated the qualities that are indispensable for any habilitated lecturer. That is why I believe that she is worthy and capable of successfully participating in a competition for this academic position.

4. Assessment of the candidate's personal contribution

Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova's habilitation thesis is devoted to a topic both traditional and current in the past few decades, as the need for a new characterization of adverbs and a methodologically different functional description compared to the traditional ones is becoming more and more evident. The above has been continually emphasized by authors who have turned their attention to adverbs as a part of speech in recent decades. However, the proposed analyses rarely rise to this task. And it is no less so for the other invariable parts of speech, including the functional ones. Herein lies L. Ivanova's research contribution. On the other hand, the author has directed her research attention specifically to temporal adverbs, and the issue of temporality has been on the author's radar since her doctoral dissertation, which we now see in monographic form as one of the so-called minimum requirements of NACID for applying for the academic position of *Associate Professor*. Temporality facets are central to several of L. Ivanova's research articles proposed as assets under this procedure, and this is a testament to the researcher's scientific competence and innovative ambitions, which ensure the success of the abovementioned research.

As the author herself states on p. 5 of the work under review, “the object of research are the functional-semantic peculiarities of adverbs of time in Bulgarian as a group of lexemes performing the role of lexical modifiers in the periphery of the functional-semantic field of temporality”, and the temporal-frequentative and temporal-durative adverbs are peripherally reflected.

The importance of the abovementioned functionality is of particular significance because in Bulgarian, which has preserved the Old Bulgarian verb system with its inherent grammatical features, the spatial-temporal relations are mainly realized at the grammatical level, whereas in other Slavic languages, including Polish, the corresponding textual functions have a more varied realization and the emphasis in this process is on lexis and on the combination of lexis and grammar.

The illustrative material is from original Bulgarian literary works translated into Polish, as well as vice versa – original literary works by Polish authors translated into Bulgarian by various translators. Approximately 2,000 examples are analysed from a total of approximately 1,000 pages for both languages. The underlying methodology of the analysis is based on the comparative approach in combination with a systematic descriptive approach and thematic lexical classification. These methods are used in conjunction with various techniques of systematic-semantic, lexicographic, componential and pragmatic analyses.

The tasks of the study include: defining the role of temporal adverbs in expressing temporal relations in Bulgarian and Polish; refining the qualification of adverbs as a part of speech; making a semantic classification of temporal adverbs; presenting their various functions, including pragmatic ones; and illustrating their use in connected speech.

The main focus of the analysis is on the functionality and interchangeability of the chosen adverbs, although the work offers an extremely complete and critically evaluative survey of what has been written on the subject. It would be good to reconsider the claim of the adverbs’ invariability, including when compared with the changes of form in Polish, since adverbs in Bulgarian, though not all of them, can take the definite article and form degrees of comparison. That is to say, it cannot be argued that an adverb is a self-contained full-meaning word with an invariable form. Its invariability is clearly a consequence of its lexical semantics and it is relative. In this respect, B. Velcheva’s definition devised as early as 1970 is impressive. According to it “an adverb turns out to be a full-meaning word of both the second [degree, like the adjective and the verb] and the third degree, or a word generally denoting a feature”, because an adverb can be a feature not only of features (i.e. of adjectives and verbs), but also a feature of independently existing phenomena (i.e. of nouns). An adverb is a word “signifying a most general feature”, B.

Velcheva argues (Velcheva 1970: 171), thus she achieves maximum generality and to some extent breaks the established definition of the adverb.

According to many Polish scholars, adverbs are not used independently and it is interesting to check whether this is true. Because in Bulgarian they are used just like nouns: in the predicate (*Svetlo e 'It is bright', Tamno e 'It is dark', Dushno e 'It is stuffy', Zle e 'It is bad', Neprivichno e... 'It is unusual' = Nosht e 'It is night'; Praznik e 'It is a holiday'*). As well as in verbless sentences: *Kato zavalya dazhd, ta tsyala nedelya. Tiho, krotko... 'When it started to rain, it rained all Sunday. Quietly, meekly...' = Zavod. Nad nego oblatsi I dim 'A plant. Clouds and smoke above'; Zora. Sabuzhda se gradat... 'Dawn. The city awakens...'*

The question about the varieties of adverbs is also a matter of debate, since in the existing classifications one can also find words that are not adverbs – e.g. conjunctions, pronouns, etc. This applies to the best of them as well, but in her work L. Ivanova has managed to apply a reliable criterion – logico-grammatical and pragmatic, so that the pages devoted to the problem are almost invulnerable. On p. 60 of her work she presents temporal modifiers as a discrete system called temporal adverbiality, and at its core are the actual temporal adverbs; at its periphery temporal features are combined with a number of other features. The third group is distinguished according to the semantic-pragmatic principle and contains representatives of both the first and the second groups. The role of word-formation (with certain affixes – e. g. *-es, esenes*) and *definiteness*, which can reclassify a noun into an adverb (*essen 'autumn' – essenta 'the autumn' = prez essenta 'in the autumn'*) is noted.

Within relativity, three subgroups are identified: adverbs of simultaneity with another point of orientation – *togava 'then', togaz 'then', takmo 'just', sega 'now', ednovremenno 'simultaneously', sashtevremenno 'at the same time', usporedno 'concurrently', paralelno 'in parallel'* (some of them may also signal *simultaneity* with the moment of speaking) // *wtedy, wtenczas, wówczas, tymczasem, właśnie*; adverbs of *precedence* as to a past point of orientation – *po-rano 'earlier', dopredi 'before, prior to', otnapred 'from before', predvaritelno 'previously', predi 'before', dotogava 'until then', veche 'yet, already', otdavna 'long ago' // dawniej, przedtem uprzednio, poprzednio etc.*, and adverbs of *posteriority* as to a past point of orientation – *togava 'then', ottogava 'since then', posle 'afterwards' // potem, następnie etc.*

At the periphery of the lexical modifiers are many adverbs with combined features – besides temporal features they also have other features – they could express repetition, duration, tempo, speed, intensity of the action, and not infrequently the distinctions are contextual.

The varieties are summarized in a very clear and visually sound classification (pp. 78-85 of the monograph). Several points are summarized: “1. The group of temporal adverbs is an organized

opposition-based set of lexemes, a system of meanings. 2. Although the categories of tense and temporal adverbiality generally obey different rules, there are a number of intersecting zones, and they stand in a relationship of complementarity. 3. The allocation of a temporal adverb to one or another semantic group does not exclude the possibility of its entering other groups depending on semantic and contextual conditions. 4. Adverbs expressing precedence constitute a vast group in which various semantic elements intersect, some of them shared with the verbal categories of tense, state of the action, and taxis, others specific only to temporal adverbiality” (p. 85). Interestingly, some of the adverbs undergo semantic changes when they take the degrees of comparison. Of course, it is better not to call temporal adverbiality a category in order to preserve the differential features of the concept in the context of A. V. Bondarko’s theory.

A particularly high-quality comparison of translated texts in Bulgarian and Polish is offered in the last part of the monograph. There, a functional-semantic analysis of a selected group of lexical temporal modifiers in Bulgarian with respect to their equivalents in Polish is carried out. As far as most of the lexical units under consideration are concerned, this study makes up the first detailed analysis of their semantics and function as temporal modifiers both in terms of the Bulgarian language as well as in terms of their equivalents in the Polish language. This analysis is undoubtedly among the most contributory parts of L. Ivanova’s book, which can also be regarded as the first monographic semantic-functional study of the system of temporal adverbs (the so-called temporal adverbiality), functioning in the periphery of the FSF of temporality, in Bulgarian and Polish.

What is also in the set of scientific papers, with which Asst. Prof. L. Ivanova, PhD takes part in the announced competition for the academic position of *Associate Professor*, is the monograph ***The Pluperfect in Bulgarian and Polish. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2023, 292 p., ISBN 978-619-202-822-0.***

In fact, Asst. Prof. L. Ivanova’s real interest in temporality and its paradigmatics began with this first more extensive scholarly work. Its essence presents the author as a young and promising researcher from the Plovdiv linguistic collegium, a researcher sharing its characteristic methodological principles and theoretical and terminological system (the author was Prof. Iv. Kutsarov’s PhD student). The book is dedicated to the semantics and functions of the pluperfect in the Bulgarian language, the place and role of the genetically identical form in the Polish language, and the functional-semantic equivalents of the Bulgarian pluperfect in the Polish language. In contemporary Bulgarian, the pluperfect is a living and actively used form within its overall taxis-temporal subsystem, whereas in contemporary Polish, the pluperfect is no longer accepted as a regular member of the verb system, but it can still be found in literary works by authors who

worked in the 19th or 20th century. The study systematizes the main issues concerning the forms, semantics and usage of the pluperfect in the two Slavic languages under study, as well as the reasons for the pluperfect's decline in Polish. On the basis of ample illustrative material, the functional-semantic correspondences of the Bulgarian pluperfect in Polish are also analysed. The study demonstrates the potential of an exceptionally insightful young scholar having undoubted competence and insight into the problems of the grammatical system of the Bulgarian language.

The two mentioned theoretical directions – about the temporality and the dictionary-morphological qualification of adverbs – can be traced in most of L. Ivanova's articles.

Of a more general nature are the articles devoted to the general qualification of tenses and to the specific Bulgarian grammatical categories when they are translated into Polish and into other Slavic languages

(Ivanova, L. On the Category of Tense in the Polish Grammatical Tradition. // *The Man and the Language Universe. Jubilee Collection on the Occasion of the 60th Anniversary of Assoc. Prof. Ivan Chobanov, PhD.* Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2009, 145 – 150 ISBN: 978-954-423-504-8; Ivanova, L. On the Polish Constructions with the Verb 'mieć' + the past participle and Their Analogues in Bulgarian. // *The Language of Time. Proceedings on the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Prof. Ivan Kutsarov, Dsc.* Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2012, 291 – 300. ISBN: 978-954-423-797-4; Kancheva-Ivanova, L. On Resultativity in Polish (in Comparison with Bulgarian). // *Time and History in Slavic Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Proceedings of The Eleventh National Slavic Studies Conference, Sofia, 19–22 April 2012. Volume One: Linguistics.* Sofia: St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, 2012, 21 – 27. ISBN: 978-954-07-3457-6; Kancheva-Ivanova, L. The Role of Lexical Constructions in Expressing Temporality in Bulgarian and Polish. // *Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv – Bulgaria, Research Papers.* Vol. 50, Book 1, Part B, 2012. Languages and Literature. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 394 – 402. ISSN: 0861-0029; Kancheva-Ivanova, L. Again about the Bulgarian Pluperfect and Its Functional-Semantic Correspondences in Polish. // *Topografia tożsamości.* Tom 2. Pod red. Agaty Firlej i Wojciecha Józwiaka. Seria Filologia słowiańska, nr 29. Poznań: Wydawnictwo naukowe UAM, 2012, 251 – 261. ISBN: 978-83-232-2438-9, ISSN: 1429-7612; Kancheva-Ivanova, L. On the Role of Lexical Devices in Expressing the Grammatical Meanings *Precedence, Relativity* and *Resultativity* (on Material from Bulgarian and Polish). // *Current Problems of Balkan Studies and Slavic Studies. Proceedings of the Second International Conference, held on 9 and 10 November 2012 at the University of Veliko Tarnovo.* Veliko Tarnovo: St. Cyrill and St. Methodius University Press, 2014, 133 – 139. ISBN: 978-954-524-944-0; Ivanova, L. Temporal Modifiers with Resultative Semantics in Bulgarian and Polish. // *Slavistics and Bulgarian Studies Today: Questions, Ideas, Directions. Proceedings of the International Conference on the Occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Slavic Philology Specialty* (Blagoevgrad, 16 – 18 October 2014). Blagoevgrad: Neofit Rilski University Press, 2015, 55 – 61. ISBN: 978-954-680-976-6.

The second group of the author's articles is devoted to adverbs and to the issues surrounding their definition, varieties, formation and the main functions that they have in speech:

Kancheva-Ivanova, L. On the Combination of Verb Form and *Już* in Polish and Its Translated Equivalents in Bulgarian. // *Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv – Bulgaria, Research Papers,* Vol. 48, Book 1, Part A, 2010 – Languages and Literature. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 487 – 493. ISSN: 0861-0029; Ivanova,

L. On the Semantic Opposition between the Lexemes *вече/оуе* in Bulgarian and *już /jeszcze* in Polish. // *Slavistics in the Global World - Challenges and Perspectives. (Proceedings of the Conference Held on 05-06.10.2012)*. Blagoevgrad Neofit Rilski University Press, 2012, 178 – 185. ISBN: 978-954-680-846-2; Ivanova, L. The Semantics and Functions of the Adverb *Sega* (Now) in Bulgarian and Its Polish Equivalents. // *Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv – Bulgaria, Research Papers*. Vol. 52, Book 1, Part A, 2014 (23 – 24 Octobre). Languages and Literature. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2014, 342 – 352. ISSN: 0861-0029; Ivanova, L. Semantic Types of Temporal Adverbs in Bulgarian and Polish. // *Movement and Space in Slavic Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Proceedings of the Twelfth International Slavic Readings, Sofia, 9 – 10 May 2014*. Volume One. Linguistics. Sofia: St. Kliment Ohridski University Press, 2015, 295 – 301. ISBN: 978-954-07-4045-4; Ivanova, L. The Adverb as a Part of Speech in Polish. // *To (re)discover words. Jubilee collection dedicated to prof. Vera Marovska, DSc*. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2015, 184 – 192. ISBN: 978-619-202-081-1; Ivanova, L. Semantic and Functional Features of the Adverb *Otdavna* in Bulgarian and its Correspondence in Polish. // *Slavistics – Paths and Perspectives*. In Honour of the 70th Anniversary of Prof. Ph. Ivanka Gugulanova. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2015, 120 – 133. ISBN: 978-619-202-083-5; Ivanova, L. Temporal Adverbs Marking Precedence in Bulgarian and Polish. // *Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv – Bulgaria, Research Papers*. Vol. 53, Book 1, Part C, 2015. Languages and Literature. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2015, 316 – 326. ISSN: 0861-0029; Ivanova, L. On the Semantics of the Adverb *DAWNO* in Polish and Its Equivalents in Bulgarian. // *Zeszyty Cyrylo-Methodiańskie, 5 / 2016*. Lublin: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 2016, 120 – 131. e-ISSN: 2449-8297; Ivanova, L. Temporal Adverbs with Qualitative Semantics in Bulgarian and Polish. // *Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv – Bulgaria, Research Papers, Vol. 57, Book 1, Part A, 2019 – Languages and Literature*. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 141 – 152. ISSN: 0861-0029; Ivanova, L. Temporal Adverbials for Expressing Remote Precedence in Bulgarian and Their Functional-Semantic Equivalents in Polish. // *Bułgarystyka – tradycje i przyszłość*. / Red. nauk. Adriana Kovacheva, Patryk Borowiak, Poznań: Polska Akademia Nauk, 2020, 129 - 138. ISBN: 978-83-63305-93-2; Ivanova, L. Semantic Characteristics of the Degrees for Comparison of Some Temporal Adverbials in Bulgarian and Polish Languages. // *In the Infinity – Eternal and Invisible. Anniversary Collection of Academic Papers in Honour of Prof. Zhorzheta Tcholakova, D.Sc*. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 532 – 542. ISBN: 978-619-202-612-7; Ivanova, L. On the Adverbs *веднъж* and *някога* as Expressions of Indefinite Precedence in Bulgarian and Their Functional-Semantic Correspondences in Polish. // *Slavic Dialogues, Year XIX, 2022, Book 29*. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 51 – 61, ISSN 1312-5346.

Problems of contemporary spoken language are commented in the article: Kancheva-Ivanova, L. Politeness Forms of Address in the Speech Etiquette of Modern Bulgarians and Poles. // *Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv – Bulgaria, Research Papers*. Vol. 49, Book 1, Part A. Languages and Literature. Plovdiv: Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University Press, 2011, 215–226. ISSN: 0861-0029.

5. Scientific and practical contributions and significance of the research

The academic research of Asst. Prof. L. Ivanova, PhD, is not an end in itself. Almost all of her works are with a view to practical understanding of the interpreted grammatical material. Her latest works in particular, including her habilitation thesis, contain special generalizations of a pragmatic nature. Indices of lexical modifiers with temporal components in Bulgarian and in Polish with a description of the meanings (and in the case of polysemantic lexemes – mainly when used

with a verb) have been drawn up, which can serve both for the purposes of teaching practice and as a basis for compiling a bilingual dictionary of temporal adverbs.

The results of the research can be used both in teaching practice as well as for the purposes of translation theory.

6. Assessment of the publications.

For her participation in the competition for the academic position of *Associate Professor* Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD, has submitted 2 monographs; 8 articles on the problems of her first dissertation and 20 articles related to the topic of her habilitation. The articles have been published in peer-reviewed journals and in edited collective volumes. About one third of the submitted articles have been published in Poland. All submitted publications are parts of serious and reputable scientific journals. The applicant also provides 10 noted citations from publications in peer-reviewed monographs and edited collective volumes.

The requirements of NACID for applying for and holding the academic position of *Associate Professor* have been duly fulfilled.

7. Personal contribution of the applicant

All the submitted publications and the two monographs are the personal work of Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD. There are no co-authored publications.

I have not found any borrowings and direct or indirect interpretations of foreign ideas and texts.

8. Personal impressions

I have known Asst. Prof. Lilia Ivanova, PhD for many years. I was a reviewer of her doctoral dissertation, which impressed me with its maturity and thoroughness so long ago. I have already shared my excellent impressions of her as a scholar and a lecturer and I confidently reaffirm them.

CONCLUSION

The documents and accompanying materials submitted by Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD meet all the requirements of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff at the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Rulebook for the Application of LDASRB and the corresponding Rulebook of the *Paisii Hilendarski* Plovdiv University.

The applicant has submitted a sufficient number of scholarly works published after the materials used in previous procedures, such as the PhD defense. They all contain original scholarly and applied contributions which have been met with international approbation whereby a significant number have appeared in journals and academic volumes published by international

academic outlets. The theoretical discussions of the applicant possess practical application; some of them are directly geared towards the academic study process. Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD, is undoubtedly a highly qualified scholar and lecturer.

The results achieved by her in the pedagogical sphere and the sphere of scholarly research fully correspond to the minimal national requirements.

Having acquainted myself with the materials and scholarly publications submitted for the purposes of this position, having analyzed their significance and the contributions entailed in them with regard to their theoretical, scholarly, and pedagogical merits, I find it expedient to confirm my **positive assessment, as expressed above, and to recommend to the Scholarly board to prepare a report proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Philology for the selection of Asst. Prof. Lilia Dragomirova Ivanova, PhD, for the academic position of Associate professor at the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv in the Sphere of higher education 2. Humanities, area of professional qualification 2.1. Philology (Slavic Languages – Comparative Grammar of the Slavic Languages).**

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Reviewer:

(Prof. Vera Marovska, DSc)